

**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 09/821,787 Confirmation No. : 8526  
Applicant : Juergen WEICHART, et al.  
Filed : March 30, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1753  
Examiner : McDonald, Rodney G.  
Docket No. : 080310.49809  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Vacuum Treatment Chamber and Method for Treating  
Surfaces

**AFTER-FINAL REPLY UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**  
**EXPEDITED HANDLING REQUESTED**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is responsive to the Office Action mailed on or about  
November 10, 2003.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which  
begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.